

The Official Snowmobile Trail Report

From the desk of:

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Greetings from Aroostook County.....

The lakes may look frozen over but don't be fooled.....very little ice cover. STAY OFF THE WATER RIGHT NOW !!! With rain in November.....and some significant amounts, the water is still running higher than normal. That makes for warmer water and a harder time for Mother Nature to make ice. This also has changed the landscape in wooded areas.....lots of ground water.... which has slowed grooming in many places.

ITS 92 Allagash has begun the run to St. Francis, St Francis has not been out yet but Fort Kent has been out and groomed west. Logging heading to Escourt still has that section down for now.

ITS 85 Clear run from Fort Kent to Carter Brook. From Carter Brook south to the north side of the Portage Lake is not open yet. From the south side of the lake to Ox Bow, Patten and Shin Pond you will find good sledding but just south of Ox Bow you will find logging big time. The trail will be wandering for a while so please watch for signage. You will be sharing plowed road on the Lane Brook Rd so ride the bank on the south side of the road and please slow down and stop for big equipment.

ITS 83 From Madawaska south to Washburn is in pretty good shape with the powerline open but with some water issues. From Washburn to access Presque Isle use ITS 88 then the 83 bypass. From Presque Isle to Phair Junction and points south to Houlton is pretty good sailing. Sorry but no report from Houlton south.

ITS 90 Portage should be over to Rt. 105 by the weekend however there will be no grooming from 105 to Rt. 88 due to water problems. Sledders are advised to use caution if they

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elect to cross this section. From Rt. 88 east to vehicular route 89 the trail is groomed however Fort Fairfield has water problems and has not gone through with the groomer.

ITS 88 Pretty much water logged however the section from Washburn to Presque Isle should be used to bypass water problems on 83.

ITS 81 Everyone has tried and as you move north from Mars Hill you will hit some groomed trail. From Caswell north has been groomed with some water problems

ITS 86 Still no action. This route may be affected by logging operations.

Debouille is half groomed on the Allagash end but not through to 85. Sledders are advise that due to problems with reroutes they should stay clear until the entire trail is officially open.

Rt. 94 Van Buren will try to open Rt. 94 to Rt. 105 until logging begins. Please note that due to water problems at Madwaska River and Halfway Brook, the Rt. 89 connector will not be open. Caswell has groomed Rt. 100 west but sledders will hit no man's land from there.

Rt 105 from Van Buren to the ITS 88 intersection is open but is in a similar situation as 88 with lots of water further south.

The **Sly Brook** trails have been groomed

Ride Smart !!! It's early in the season.

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